



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Shana Jones, Special Assistant
Daryl Fields, Public Affairs Officer
610 N.W. Loop 410
San Antonio, Texas 78216
(210) 384-7452

**FEDERAL GRAND JURY IN PUERTO RICO INDICTS TWO IMMIGRATION AND
CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT AGENTS**

U.S. Attorney Johnny Sutton announced today that a federal grand jury in San Juan, Puerto Rico, returned a five-count indictment charging 36-year-old Richard Roark and 29-year-old Jorge Rivera with Conspiracy and Obstruction of Justice.

According to the indictment, on June 8, 2004, Richard Roark was the Acting Group Supervisor of the ICE Airport Group Task Force and Jorge Rivera was assigned to the ICE Airport Group Task Force as the case agent. As the case agent for the June 8, 2004, operation, Defendant Rivera was responsible for preparing and submitting written reports describing the actions taken during the operation. Defendant Roark, as the Acting Group Supervisor, was responsible for the approval of the written reports prepared and filed by Defendant Rivera.

The indictment alleges that on June 8, 2004, Roark and Rivera conspired to obstruct justice, make false statements, and conceal material facts related to cash seized from a residence located in the Floral Park area of San Juan, Puerto Rico. The indictment specifically alleges that the two defendants agreed to conceal the fact that Task Force Officers had entered the residence and to conceal the fact that cash had been removed from the residence.

The indictment further alleges that defendant Roark briefed his supervisor on the outcome of the surveillance and cash seizure operation and concealed from his supervisor that agents had, without a search warrant, entered a residence and seized cash from the interior of the residence. The defendants prepared official reports which were false and misrepresented the source and location of the cash seized on June 8, 2004 and claimed it was seized from a vehicle.

This case is being investigated by the Dept. of Homeland Security, Office of Inspector General. The district of Puerto Rico is recused in this matter and Assistant United States Charlie Jenkins, from the Western District of Texas, is prosecuting this case on behalf of the Government.

An indictment is a formal accusation of criminal conduct, not evidence. The defendants are presumed innocent unless and until convicted through due process of law.

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